

INFORMATION

AGENDA ITEM: CLSA Consolidations and Affiliations**GENERAL OVERALL PROGRAM UPDATES:**

CURRENT STATUS: Pursuant to Section 18752 of the Education Code, June 30, 1983 marked the last date on which public libraries affiliating with Systems were eligible for grants under the Affiliations Program.

Public library consolidations (Section 18732) and System consolidations remain eligible for reimbursement grants indefinitely. By statute consolidation establishment grants are paid as follows:

	<u>For each of 2 years</u>	<u>Total Grant</u>
Public library consolidation	\$20,000	\$40,000
System consolidation	\$10,000	\$20,000

Although affiliation grants are no longer available, the State Board must still approve the proposed affiliation of independent public libraries with Systems, since funds for several CLSA Programs are allocated on the basis of formulae in which the number of System members is a significant factor.

PROGRAM TRENDS: No notifications of intent to consolidate during the 2001/02 fiscal year were received by the September 1, 2000 filing date.

No notifications of intent to consolidate or affiliate during the 2002/03 fiscal year have been received to date.

At the February 2001 meeting, the Board approved the affiliation of the Irwindale Public Library with the Metropolitan Cooperative Library System, effective July 1, 2001. Irwindale was one of three library jurisdictions who have, previously, never participated in any CLSA program. The other two are A.K. Smiley (Redlands) Public Library and Vernon Public Library, although A.K. Smiley has joined the Tierra del Sol Region Library Network. Additionally, since 1993, four libraries have withdrawn their membership in order to charge fees to non-residents for library service. They are: Huntington Beach Public, Monterey Public, San Leandro Community and Santa Ana Public. Two of the four libraries (Huntington Beach and Monterey Public) have joined regional library networks. Also, it should be noted that there are two areas without public library service, the City of Industry and the unincorporated area of Lassen County.

Because of the affiliation of Irwindale, staff was asked to calculate the additional cost associated with the new affiliation. The difference in the membership portion is estimated to be an additional \$5,421 for the System Reference Program and \$2,499 for System Communications and Delivery.

TRANSITION PROCESS: The Library of California organizational unit that parallels the CLSA cooperative library system is the multitype regional library network. The State Board has similar responsibilities under the Library of California Act as it does under CLSA, in that the Board must approve the consolidation, realignment, and division of regional library networks as well as library applications for membership in the networks. At this time Library of California law does not provide for state grants to libraries and/or systems wishing to consolidate.

The regional library networks eventually will absorb and expand the state-mandated responsibilities and services of the existing cooperative library systems as CLSA transitions to the Library of California. Depending on the decision of the state Attorney General, it is possible that the cooperative library systems may continue to exist as independent service providers or other types of organizations if they wish to do so, but they will no longer have the California Library Services Act as the authority for their existence.

Staff requests guidance from the Library of California Board in preparing a plan for the transition of this program to the Library of California for Board consideration. As the state-mandated programs administered by the systems are transitioned into the regional library networks, the Board must decide when to stop accepting new CLSA system affiliation requests, when to determine that all CLSA funds should have been transferred to the Library of California, and where in this timeline the CLSA cooperative library systems will cease to exist as such (although as noted above there is a possibility that some may continue to operate as a different organization).

RELATED ISSUE TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD IN THE FUTURE: The State Board will be notified of all proposed affiliations or consolidations at the Board meeting immediately following the receipt of notices of intent.

Relevant Committee: Support Services
Staff Liaison: Tom Andersen